

## CAMPAIGN FINANCE DIVISION

☒ **WAIVER REQUEST**  
☐ **RECONSIDERATION REQUEST**

**DATE: 6/25/2021**  
**DOCKET #:**

### FILER INFORMATION

Name: Edwy G. "Buz" Craft  
Office: Mayor, Town of Vidalia  
Parish: CONCORDIA  
Election Date: 7/11/2020  
Level of Office: Any

### REPORT INFORMATION

Name of Report: SUPP2020  
Original Due Date: 2/18/2021  
Date Filed: 3/24/2021  
Activity Receipts: \$0  
Expenditures: \$0  
Funds at Close of Reporting Period: \$71.70

### LATE FEE INFORMATION

Amount of Late Fee: \$1000  
Days Late: 34  
Late Fee Order Received: 5/13/2021  
Payment/Waiver Request Due Date: 6/2/2021  
Waiver Request Received: 3/24/2021  
Additional Information Requested:

- Medical
- Financial
- Other

**COMMENTS:** Candidate submitted waiver request by fax and states he is asking for this waiver for several reasons. He said first that the Covid pandemic caused confusion and uncertainty about the reporting dates. He said with extra time devoted as the lead official in making sure his citizens were receiving everything the town could provide to keep them and his employees safe and secure. He said he was constantly dealing with employees or their families that had Covid which required many workers to quarantine or work remotely. He states that the Supplemental report was due 2/18/21 and his father passed away on 2/14/21. He said there was also a winter ice storm and that week was difficult for many reasons.

### OTHER LATE FEE INFORMATION

#### Campaign Finance:

Other Outstanding Reports: No  
Other Outstanding Late Fees: No  
Prior Late Fees: YES  
Reassessed Late Fees: No

#### Disclosure Statements:

Other Outstanding Late Fees: No  
Prior Late Fees: No



# TOWN OF VIDALIA

P. O. BOX 2010  
VIDALIA, LOUISIANA 71373-2010

March 24, 2021

## BOARD OF ALDERMEN

JON BEIT'S  
BRENT SMITH  
ROBERT GARDNER  
ROSAL DEMBY  
TOMMY PROBST

**BUZ CRAFT**  
MAYOR

**JAY LASYONE**  
CITY CLERK

Ms. Angela Newsom, Director  
Campaign Finance and Lobbying Division  
Louisiana Board of Ethics  
P. O. Box 4368  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

**RE: LATE ASSESSMENT FEE**

Dear Ms. Newsom:

Please let this letter serve as a request for a waiver concerning the late fee assessment for my July 11, 2020 election 10-G Campaign Finance Disclosure Report that was filed 13 days late.

I am asking for this waiver for several reasons. First, we can all agree that the horrendous COVID pandemic caused much confusion and uncertainty about financial report dates. With extra time devoted as the lead official in making sure our citizens were receiving everything the town could provide to keep them and our employees safe and secure required constant attention.

Running for the 2020 re-election, in which I won, added to time constraints. I was constantly dealing with employees or their families that had positive test results for COVID. This required many workers to quarantine or work remotely which caused even more constraints in time.


I am also asking for any fees for my supplemental campaign financial disclosure for the July 11, 2020 election, which was due February 18, 2021, be waived. I am enclosing that report with this letter.

The 2020 report was due on February 18, 2021. On the night of February 14, 2021, my father passed away and the winter ice storm of 2021 hit Louisiana (Vidalia and Concordia Parish were especially hit hard). That week was very difficult for many reasons. We are still dealing with the aftermath of removing debris and cleaning our town. I believe that this unprecedented storm, in addition to dealing with my father's death, should be more than sufficient to warrant consideration for the waiver.

I will be glad to give verification of all of my hardships. I would also be glad to visit the Board and plead my case as well.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

  
Buz Craft  
Mayor

PHONE (318) 336-5206 • FAX (318) 336-6253 • EMAIL: [vidaliacityhall@cityofvidalia.com](mailto:vidaliacityhall@cityofvidalia.com)

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*





STATE OF LOUISIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE CIVIL SERVICE  
**LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS**  
P. O. BOX 4368  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70821  
(225) 219-5600  
FAX: (225) 381-7271  
1-800-842-8630  
www.ethics.la.gov

February 26, 2021

Edwy G. "Buz" Craft  
417 Dogwood St.  
Vidalia, LA 71373

**CERTIFIED MAIL**

NO. 70200640000079871490

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

RE: Late fee assessment for the July 11, 2020 Election  
10-G Campaign Finance Disclosure Report filed 13 days late

Dear Edwy G. "Buz" Craft:

Enclosed is an assessment of a late fee pursuant to La R.S. 18:1505.4 and La. R.S. 18:1511.4.1. Please submit a check or money order in the amount of \$520 payable to the Treasurer of the State of Louisiana to P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821. **Please note that late fees can only be paid by the candidate or by his campaign.**

**You have 20 days from receipt of this letter to dispute this assessment. You may elect to do either or both of the following:**

1. You may submit your request for a waiver to the attention of the Louisiana Board of Ethics.

Waivers are handled by the Ethics Board. The Board of Ethics may reduce, suspend, or decline to waive a late fee assessment based on the cause shown by the person, candidate, or political committee. If you submit a request for a waiver of the late fee to the Board of Ethics, your request should contain details as to why, in your opinion, you have good cause why your report was not timely filed. Also, if you would like to appear before the Board of Ethics in connection with your request, you should state that in your letter. The request should be submitted to the attention of the Board of Ethics at the following address: P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or fax at (225) 381-7271.

2. You may appeal the assessment directly to the Ethics Adjudicatory Board (EAB).

Appeals to the EAB are proceedings before a three judge panel. The determination is made regarding whether the person, candidate, or political committee was required to file the report and whether the report was filed late. **Mitigating factors are not considered during an EAB proceeding. The EAB does not have the authority to reduce, suspend, or waive a late fee assessment.** If you choose to appeal the assessment to the EAB, you should submit your request for an appeal to the attention of the Executive Secretary of the Louisiana Board of Ethics at P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or fax at (225) 381-7271.

If you timely submit a waiver request or appeal, your name will not be posted on the website pending the result of your appeal. Furthermore, if you request an appearance, you will be notified of the place and time prior to the meeting.

If you do not pay or dispute the assessment of the late fee within 20 days from the receipt of this letter, the matter will be forwarded to the Attorney General's Office to pursue collection. If the matter is forwarded to the Attorney General's Office for collection, you may be responsible for all additional costs incurred. Additionally, late fees not paid by the due date will be posted on the agency website.

***You should be aware that unpaid campaign finance fines, fees or penalties may have an adverse effect on your ability to run for public office in the future, as the Board of Ethics will object to your future qualifications for candidacy for public office pursuant to La. R.S. 18:491 and R.S. 18:492.***

Sincerely,

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

Melissa Horn

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

**STATE OF LOUISIANA LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS**  
**acting in its capacity as the**  
**SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE ON CAMPAIGN FINANCE DISCLOSURE**

**In Re:      Edwy G. "Buz" Craft**  
**July 11, 2020 Election**

**LATE FEE ASSESSMENT ORDER**

**WHEREAS**, Edwy G. "Buz" Craft, in his capacity as a candidate for Mayor, Town of Vidalia in the July 11, 2020 election was required to file campaign finance reports pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1484.


**WHEREAS**, La. R.S. 18:1505.1 provides that it is a violation of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act to fail to timely file campaign finance reports.

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1495.4B(5), Edwy G. "Buz" Craft was required to file a 10th Day Prior to General Report (10-G) by August 5, 2020. Edwy G. "Buz" Craft filed the report on August 18, 2020 and was 13 days late.

**WHEREAS**, La. R.S. 18:1505.4A(2)(a)(iii) provides that an automatic late fee of \$40 per day (not to exceed \$1,000) be assessed against Edwy G. "Buz" Craft for this late filing.

**ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED** that a late fee of \$520 is assessed against Edwy G. "Buz" Craft for failure to timely file his campaign finance disclosure report.

**ORDER** signed on the 26th day of February 2021 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Angela Newsom, Director  
Campaign Finance & Lobbying Division



STATE OF LOUISIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE CIVIL SERVICE  
**LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS**  
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www.ethics.la.gov

February 23, 2021

Mr. Edwy G. "Buz" Craft  
417 Dogwood St.  
Vidalia, LA 71373-4105

**CERTIFIED MAIL**

**NO. 70202450000010759859**

**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

**NOTICE OF DELINQUENCY**

Dear Mr. Craft:

Your Supplemental campaign finance disclosure report for the July 11, 2020 election, which was due February 18, 2021, has not been filed. You are subject to automatic late filing fees for every day that report is late.

**A LATE FILING FEE OF \$40 PER DAY IS NOW BEING  
ASSESSED FOR EVERY DAY YOUR REPORT IS LATE.**

If your report is not filed by March 10, 2021, **additional** penalties of up to \$10,000 may be imposed by the Board of Ethics after an administrative hearing is conducted.

Once your report is received, you will be sent a notice for the total late fees assessed.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

**TOWN OF VIDALIA**P. O. BOX 2010  
VIDALIA, LOUISIANA 71373-2010**BOARD OF ALDERMEN**JON BETTS  
BRENT SMITH  
ROBERT GARDNER  
ROSA L. DEMBY  
TOMMY PROBST**BUZ CRAFT**  
MAYOR**JAY LASYONE**  
CITY CLERK**FAX COVER SHEET**To: Angela NewsonFrom: Buz CraftFax: 225-381-7871Pages: 5

Re: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 3/24/21

## Comments:

*Original will be mailed  
today.*

PHONE (318) 336-5206 • FAX (318) 336-6253 • EMAIL: [vidaliacityhall@cityofvidalia.com](mailto:vidaliacityhall@cityofvidalia.com)*This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*



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03/24/2021 10:59 AM

Start Page

Xerox® VersaLink™ B405DN Multifunction Printer



**BUZ CRAFT**  
MAYOR

**JAY LASYONE**  
CITY CLERK

# TOWN OF VIDALIA

P. O. BOX 2010  
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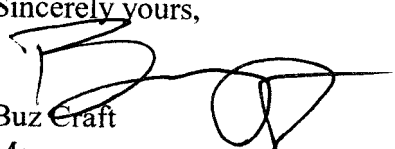
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LETTER RECD  
APR 25 2021







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